



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
U.S. Congress  
Washington, DC 20515

*Douglas Holtz-Eakin, Director*

June 10, 2004

Honorable Jim Nussle  
Chairman  
Committee on the Budget  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Pursuant to section 312 of S. Con. Res. 95, a concurrent resolution setting forth the Congressional budget for the United States government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, as passed by the House of Representatives on May 19, 2004, CBO has calculated the average of federal obligations for wildland fire suppression over the 1994-2003 period. Based on information from the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior, CBO has determined that, over the past 10 years, annual obligations incurred by those agencies to suppress wildland fires averaged \$658 million and \$222 million, respectively.

If you wish further details on this subject, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Megan Carroll.

Sincerely,

Douglas Holtz-Eakin

cc: Honorable John M. Spratt Jr.  
Ranking Member

Honorable Don Nickles  
Chairman, Senate Committee on the Budget

Honorable Kent Conrad  
Ranking Member